

1D12 Sally Johnson 1920-1946

1D12-12 Correspondence from S.T.

between 4 rightlier months right out of
the roads - then the further advanced
pupils must be used in the private
wards - and some get head-nurse work.
Seems to me this proves that pupils
must be ready to take their full share
imply soon after they get on to the
roads. Therefore they must get a working
basis for giving nutrient enemata -
intestinal irrigation - catheterizations -
hypodermic injections - alcohol sponge -
hot air baths, slush baths - and packs -
holding lamp - pulse respiration.

To be more specific: pupils who entered
January first went on to the roads
May first - and had their uniforms
July first. Four of them are now on
night duty - we mean always to have

Re 9d Com.
NLNG

Valley Johnson MGH
August 21 - 1916.
697 Huntington Ave,
Boston - Mass.

My dear Miss Stewart:

I realize that I am a week behind
schedule in answering your communication
regarding tentative outline of training
school curriculum. We mean to be very
prompt about this sort of thing but vaca-
tion season has caused procrastination.

It would be much more satisfactory
if you could drop in to Miss Hall's sitting-
room and let us talk with you - for
writing on such a subject is easily mis-
understood - and some of my state-
ments may sound like rank heresy.

Just because we could not use these
outlines here does not mean that some
other school could not - nor that they
may not be the thing to use. I be-
lieve such outlines sent out might not

a goal toward which we could aspire.

I have never taught hygiene - ~~in my~~ opinion there is of no value. It may be of interest to you to know that Miss Watson puts a large sheet of paper in the ^{preliminary} pupils' book room - and each pupil records hours of sleep, (daily) hours of outdoor exercise and cold baths. Habits are formed which are of value later.

The outline in Household Economy appeals to me strongly - and there is not even a sub-subject I omit - but I think I should condense it to six hours.

It is the outline in "Elementary Nursing" that we could not apply - and for schools have greater latitude to do what one wishes. I assume that this is all the material to be covered in this subject during the preliminary course. We must put in more advanced work during

that course - and many of the things here outlined we teach in the wards - and more easily. I know the objection to pupils leaving and using this advanced knowledge - but as an actual fact our pupils generally leave near the end of the third month or seventh & eighth month - and these things must be taught before the eighth month - as they must know them to take their share of the ward work.

When you realize that every pupil is out of our wards four months for preliminary course, three months obstetrics, three months children's, two and a half months or three months operating room, two months vaccination, many two months dispensary, six weeks diet kitchen, and perhaps one month district - the total makes from

about two. As it is cared for by our attention in her work with Preliminary pupils. No XV is done by these - nurses - as the various doctors have such different methods making any we may teach obsolete. In my opinion No 24-25-26. need never sit hours than three. We have done very little with 27-28-29. and I feel that we should.

I am returning these outlines though I have a very strong desire to keep them. I should be very grateful if you would send me a copy of the "Economy" and "Nursing" ones - or loan them to me for my stenographer to copy - My New England conscience will not strain further and keep them for this now. I am intensely interested in this

effort and I shall watch the dovetailing of parts with benefit.

It is far easier to offer destructive criticism than constructive - therefore I am glad that you know that I've helped a little in constructive work here.

Summary: if this can all be done and still take care of the patients - I consider it is something to rejoice in. I must say - in Yankee phraseology we can't make it "fetch."

When in Boston again - be sure and come to see us -
Forgive this long harangue -
and believe me

Very cordially yours.

Sally Johnson.

them on the smaller wards of fifteen
patients. On two of our smaller wards
day duty, beside the head-nurse
there is a senior, who is ⁱⁿ her
second year and two of this same
class. These have one of the older nurses
there nearly all day. But they must
be able to perform these nursing procedures.

Theoretically we may be wrong - but
I know that practically we are right - for
our particular case -

Perhaps in schools where the pupils
do not have to leave for children and
obstetrics these subjects could be post-
poned - but I've had no experience there.

All that work relating to admitting,
discharging, care of volunteers, lavatories
and service rooms is taught on the
wards by head-nurse and precedent book.
This cuts down the first six hours to

Nov. 8, 24.

Dr. Norman R. Cook,
27 Main Street,
Newport, Maine.

Dear Doctor Cook:

I am sure that you laughed when you got my letter, as I laughed this morning when I got your second letter. Evidently you signed the first letter, "Yours respectfully" and then signed your name, and the word which I interpreted as "Beulah Falkes" was "Beulah's Father." Physicians are noted for illëgible handwriting, and having a physician in my family I realize this.

I talked with Miss Cook a few minutes this morning, and I have substantiated the diagnosis which I had made before I saw her. I think that on the whole things are going very well with Miss Cook. She does not do quite as well as the other college women that we have. Her marks are not quite as high, and she does not do quite as well with her hands. Nevertheless, we have nothing to complain of, and we like her very much. I can put my finger on the real difficulty.

Our Practical Instructor is Miss Annabella McCrae, a vehement Scotch woman, who has been with us for twenty-two years. She is probably the one person, who more than any one else, has given us what we might call the "M. B. H. urge," but I sometimes wish she were a little less vehement, and a little less strenuous. She also sometimes says things in the class room that are sarcastic, and things which would be better left unsaid. She is well on toward sixty, and I can never make her over. Furthermore, I was one of her pupils, and you can see that that makes a difference.

Miss McCrae, however, is a woman of sterling qualities, and she does all this because she feels that it is her duty to get everything out of these students that she possibly can.

The practical course is of three months duration. At the end of three months she has a final demonstration. It is perfectly marvelous what those young women can do. Their reliance and their resourcefulness is beyond belief, when we realize that they have been here only three months.

11/8/24.

That demonstration day is Miss McCrae's big day. It is to her what the wedding day is to the average woman, and to her as graduation day is to me. About the eighth week she has a feeling that the present class is never going to measure up on that last day, and she puts on full strength. I don't need to look at my calendar when the students have been here two months. In fact, last Tuesday evening, Miss McCrae's senior assistants came in to see me to sort of appeal to me for protection for the student nurses against Miss McCrae's vehemence. I said: "How long have these students been here?" They replied: "Eight weeks today."

The situation is now tapering off. This week has been less strenuous than last and by the time they are ready to leave her she praises them more than I think they deserve, but I suppose she thinks it evens it up. Furthermore, from the prospective of a year in training, Miss McCrae demands more admiration and affection from the students, than I or any of my predecessors.

I am sure you get the picture. I am relying upon you to put this letter in the waste basket after you have read it, and to divulge none of its contents to Miss Cook, but I am perfectly honest with the situation. The time will come when Miss McCrae will have to be retired, but it has not yet come. With the exception of about two weeks with every course, she is all that we could desire. She has written a book on Practical Nursing and is writing another. This will be finished in about two months. When that is finished I am going to re-organize the preliminary practical nursing. I think we are putting too much in the preliminary course; that we should teach some of it a little later, then the students and she would not feel the pressure.

I am glad that you wrote to me. I don't believe that you need to worry a bit about Miss Cook. I think she got wrought up last week, but I think she is all straight-ended out now. I don't believe she has the slightest idea why I talked to her this morning, but I think talking to me has probably relieved the strain a bit.

If you were not a physician I should not have written all this, but I know that you can read between the

N. R. C.

-3-

11/8/24.

-lines.

If you come to Boston be sure and come in and see
me.

Very truly yours,

J.G

Sally Johnson, R.N.
Superintendent of Nurses.

11/1/21

H. S. G.

11/1/21

If you have no further to write I will close

Yours

Very truly yours,

Wm. S. G.
11/1/21

11/1/21

The Welcott House

Probably,
Jan or Feb
1939

Saturday Morning.

My dear Dr. Wertheimer:

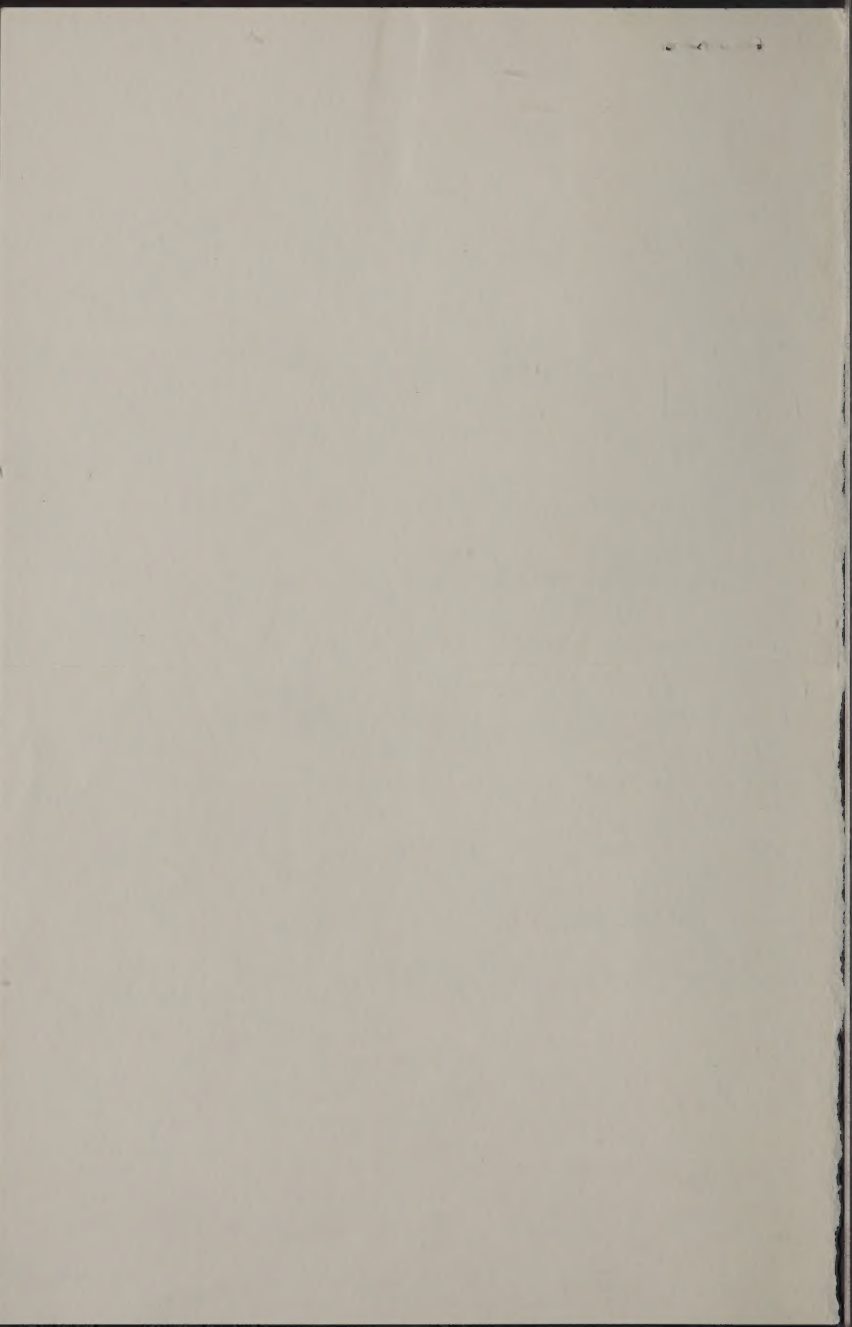
(Graduation
exercise)

The "flower" letter has gone &
(Feb. 8, 1939)

Bay State Road.

This is to say that after you had
gone Thursday morning, I realized
I had said nothing about your
address, which I read before I went
to bed Wednesday night. I think
the reason for my forgetting was
our interest in institutional
group, and particularly in Dr.
Burlingame's situation.

I did like the speech: little advice
emphasis on the appreciation of the
hospital, and - the story of the
Province House, of which practically
nothing has been known by
most of us. I don't know whether



you want to let us have the paper
for publication in the March
"Quarterly" - you can let me
know later.

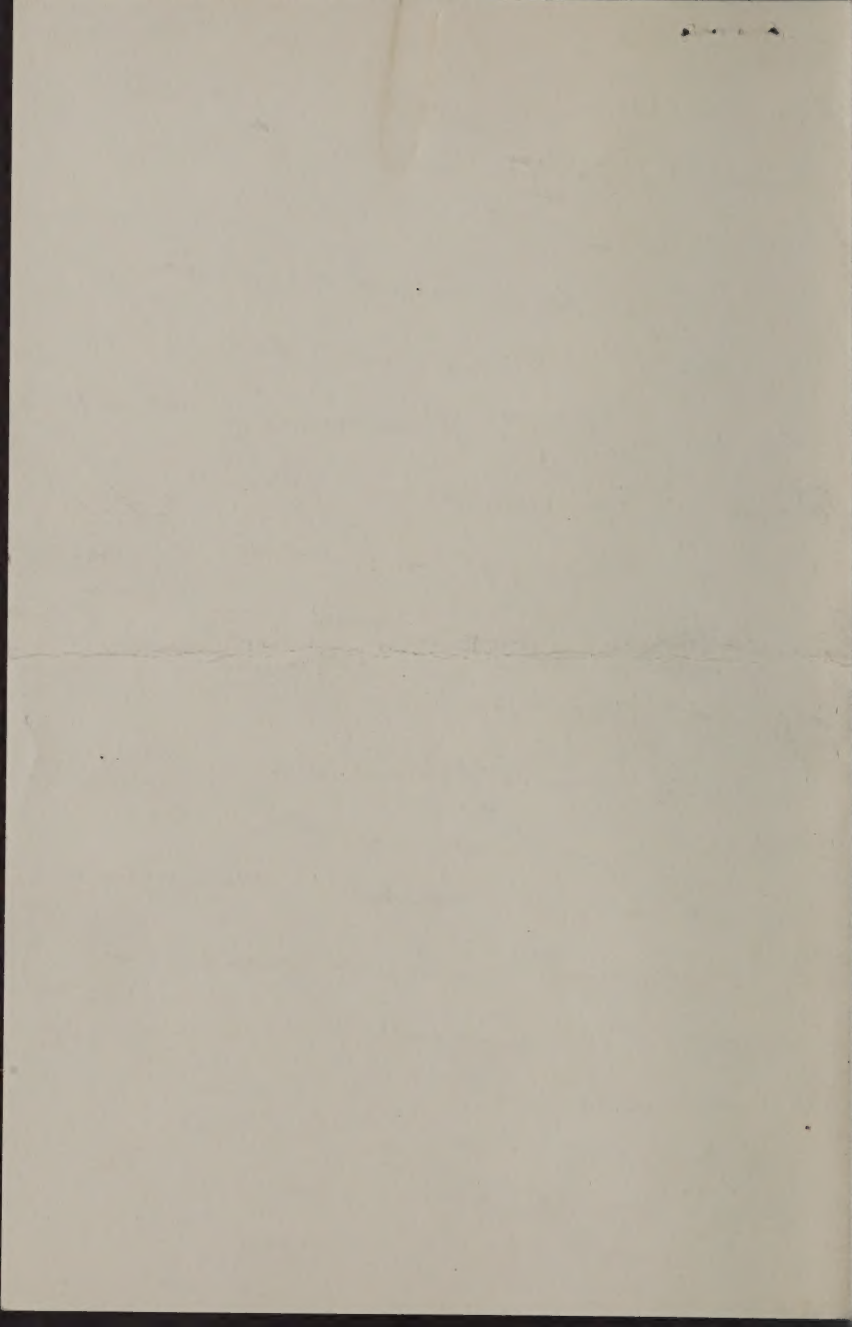
For the last two or three days,
about all I have felt like do-
ing is a little thinking - A job
such as mine gives plenty of
food for thought - and I
can't wait to get back on my
feet to make some of my
thinking bear fruit.

Miss Boyer told me the other
day that the thought the folder
of clunian material was a
record of impressive achievement.
It certainly is.

You better keep it stirred up. Every
one is sure to pick you up!

Always loyally yours,

Sally Johnson.



Call name
x-ray for
diag. Name

UNITED STATES ARMY



CAMP RUCKER
CAMP RUCKER, ALABAMA

APR 22 1943

Boyle
508 Commanding

314th Station Hospital,
April 17th, 1943.

The Director, School of Nursing,
Massachusetts General Hospital:
Dear Madam -

I am a past interne of the General,
having had general surgical and ortho-
pedic internships there between
1919 and 1923. Because of this and
because of the fact that I am a
Harvard Medical graduate I am
very desirous of having your
graduates in my nursing per-
sonnel.

The 314th is a new unit, having
been activated on April 1st. It is a
750 bed hospital and will probably
go overseas some time during the
summer. There will be 75 nurses and
they will meet us at the port
of embarkation. Would it be pos-

sible for you to supply 40 of that number, to be ready to leave any time after the middle of June?

I think this is going to be a "blue stocking" unit. It was formed from the 11th Hospital Centre, the latter having been dissolved as an unnecessary type of unit. I have known that unit and its post C.O., Colonel Makel, since last September and have been constantly impressed by the excellence of its personnel.

I shall be the new C.O. and if you would like references, you might ask Mr. Richard Miller about me. I also know Colonel Goethals, whom I visited at Fort Blanding in January.

Looking forward to hearing from
you I remain,

Very truly yours,
Joseph K. Suits
SURLV

Joseph K. Suits
SURCV

SURPLN

KTOL MC

10/10/10

64
127
37

May 6, 1945

Lt. Col. Joseph K. Surls
314th Station Hospital
Camp Rucker, Alabama

Dear Colonel Surls:

Probably the best way for me to break it to you that we cannot possibly provide you with forty nurses for your unit is to say that the Massachusetts General Hospital is today short 108 graduate nurses. When our Unit left us a year ago, they took a very large number, and since that time the nurses have been going in groups two and three, three and four, and singly.

As I was director of that branch of the Army school of nursing which was in the Walter Reed Hospital back in 1918, I knew something of the lines of authority in the Army Nurse Corps. But of course there have been many changes since then. However, I should suppose that your nurses would have to be members of the Army Nurse Corps and assigned to you by the Washington office of the Army Nurse Corps. Furthermore, I should think there would be some question as to whether or not that office would promise to assign nurses of ours to the 314th. You might gather in a few M. G. H. nurses if your chief nurse made such a request to the Washington Office. If any communication comes to me through the Army Nurse channels, I shall be glad to help in any way that I can.

You probably know that Colonel Goethals and his Unit are now in North Africa.

Very truly yours,

SJ:FC

Sally Johnson, R. N.
Principal

1-1880: 10 12-12. *Superintendent of Nurses*

I Agent of Nursing

